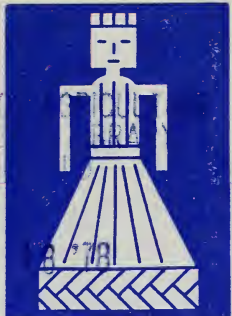
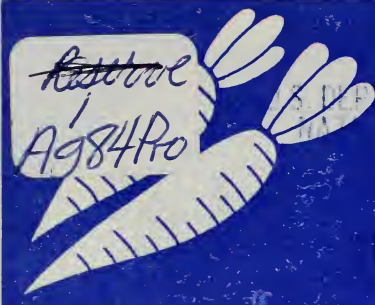


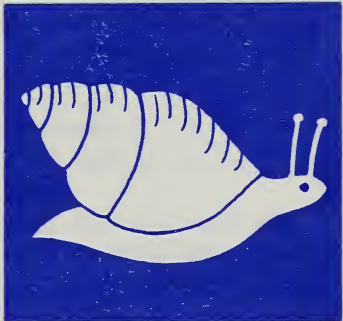
Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



TRAVELERS' TIPS

ON BRINGING FOOD,
PLANT, AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS
INTO THE UNITED STATES [1,2],



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A Special Message For Travelers:

We hope you will enjoy your travels, and we want to make your return as convenient as possible. Therefore, you should know that it is illegal to bring many types of meats, fruits, vegetables, plants, animals, and plant and animal products into the United States without approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. These restrictions are intended to protect the plant and animal life of this country.

Agricultural items can harbor foreign insects and diseases that could cause severe damage to U.S. crops, forests, gardens, and livestock.

We ask your cooperation in bringing into the United States only those agricultural items that are approved for entry.

Please take a few minutes to become familiar with these TRAVELERS' TIPS. They may save you time and money when you go through U.S. Customs.



WHY ENTRY OF AGRICULTURAL ITEMS IS RESTRICTED

Foods and plant and animal products from foreign countries are inspected at U.S. ports of entry by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Inspectors of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) determine if these agricultural items are free from pests and diseases or pose a pest-risk to this country. Small quantities of admissible agricultural items are usually released without expense or undue delay to the passenger.

Materials requiring extensive inspection, testing, or treatment often will be held until they can be certified free of pests. Some items may be refused entry.

Articles containing pests or diseases and those determined to be pest-risks will be destroyed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. No reimbursement can be allowed for items that must be destroyed.

Travelers often think that quarantine restrictions are aimed only at commercial importers. This is not true. Restrictions apply to anyone who brings or mails agricultural items to this country. Personal luggage and "carry-on" baggage are major channels for the international spread of agricultural pests and diseases.

One plant, a piece of sausage, or a pet bird could be the means of accidentally introducing destructive pests into this Nation. In 1971, an imported, diseased parakeet was responsible for an outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease in U.S. poultry. More than 11 million exposed chickens were destroyed to control the deadly bird virus. Commercial poultrymen received over \$26 million in indemnities.

Plant and animal pests and diseases cost Americans over \$12 billion annually. Many of our most destructive pests are foreigners that cause greater damage in the United States than in their native environment where natural enemies may hold them in check.



U.S. CUSTOMS REQUIREMENTS

You must declare, on a U.S. Customs Declaration form, articles acquired abroad and in your possession at the time of your arrival in the United States—including *all food, plant, and animal products*. Undeclared items subject the importer to a fine. Declaration forms are given to travelers on airplanes, ships, and trains.

“Customs Hints for Returning U.S. Residents—Know Before You Go” is available from U.S. Customs or an agricultural quarantine office (see p. 13).



SMUGGLING

Smuggling of food, plant, and animal products into the United States is a Federal offense. Persons found guilty of such smuggling are subject to a fine and/or imprisonment.

OBTAINING PERMISSION FOR ENTRY OF RESTRICTED ITEMS

A written permit is required before you can bring restricted animals, birds, and plant materials into the United States. Permits are issued to persons *with addresses in this country* and should be obtained in advance of your trip.

Animals and Birds

The U.S. Department of Agriculture restricts the entry of live farm animals; certain zoo animals; game animals and birds (also carcasses, meat, and trophies); poultry and other birds (and hatching eggs). Some animals are prohibited; others must be held in USDA Animal Import Centers or by owner for 30 to 60 days after entry. Pet birds are limited to two that have been in owner's possession for 90 days before entry. Animals and birds must be inspected by APHIS veterinarians. This service is available only at certain ports. Write in advance to: Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

The U.S. Department of the Interior restricts or prohibits the importation of many species of fish, wild birds and animals (including certain zoo animals), and game birds and animals (also trophies, hair, leather, eggs, and other parts and products from endangered species). For details and/or permits, write: Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 19183, Washington, D.C. 20036.

The U.S. Public Health Service regulates entry of dogs, cats, and monkeys. Information can be obtained from: Foreign Quarantine Program, U.S. Public Health Service, Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, Ga. 30333.

Plant Materials

Approval of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (in the form of a permit) is required before certain plant materials can be brought into the United States. These include fruits, vegetables, and plants or plant parts intended for growing. Plant materials that require permits are included in the General List, beginning on page 6.

To obtain a permit, write: Permit Unit, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, Federal Bldg., Rm. 638, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

All plant materials will be examined at customs inspection on your return to the United States. You may, however, mail restricted materials directly to one of the plant inspection stations listed below. Ask the Permit Unit for mailing labels when you apply for a permit.

In mailing: (1) *Be sure to write your home address on a sheet of paper put inside the package.* After clearance, your package will be forwarded to you without additional cost. (2) Mark the outside of the package to show its contents. (3) Send the package to: *U.S. Department of Agriculture. APHIS, PPQ* using one of the following addresses:

Border Inspection Sta.
Rm. 202
Nogales, Ariz. 85621

Agriculture Building,
Rm. 101
Embarcadero at Mission
Street
San Francisco, Calif.
94105

P.O. Box 3343,
Terminal Island
San Pedro, Calif. 90731

Miami Inspection Sta.
P.O. Box 592136
Miami, Fla. 33159

P.O. Box 9067
Honolulu, Hi. 96820

P.O. Box 20037,
Airport Mailing Facility
New Orleans, La. 70140

Plant Importations Office
209 River St.
Hoboken, N.J. 07030

John F. Kennedy Inter-
national Airport
Plant Inspection Sta.,
Cargo Building 80
Jamaica, N.Y. 11430

P.O. Box 3386
Old San Juan, P.R. 00904

P.O. Box 306
Brownsville, Tex. 78520

Cordova Bridge Sta.
Rm. 172-A
3600 East Paisano
El Paso, Tex. 79905

P.O. Box 277
Laredo, Tex. 78040

Federal Office Building,
Rm. 9014
Seattle, Wash. 98104



IF YOU VISIT A FARM OVERSEAS

If you visit a farm in a foreign country, please inform the customs or agricultural inspector on your return to the United States. Unknowingly, you may have picked up a livestock disease on your shoes or clothes.

Highly contagious livestock diseases, such as African swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease, are prevalent in many foreign countries. These diseases do not affect humans but will debilitate or kill animals.

An agricultural inspector will tell you if you need to take special precautions to prevent possible infection of animals here.

WHAT CAN YOU BRING HOME?

Here is a list of common foods, plants, animals, and plant and animal products available in foreign countries. Many are admitted without restriction other than inspection; some are prohibited entry; and a few are generally prohibited but may, under certain conditions, be admitted. (The same restrictions apply to agricultural items *mailed* to the United States from a foreign country.)

General List

(For Canada, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Hawaii, and Mexico, see pp. 9 to 12.)

Acorns—*treatment required.*

Animal hair, wool, bristles—scoured, dyed, or thoroughly washed: *admitted*.¹

Animals—live cattle, swine, deer, horses, sheep, mules, burros, goats, dogs used around livestock, and zoo animals: *permit required*.¹

Bakery goods—including breads, cakes, cookies, and similar items: *admitted*.

Bamboo—dried poles: *admitted*; all other parts: *prohibited*.

Beads and curios—made of seeds: *admitted*; made of Jequirity beans: *prohibited*.

Berries—fresh: *permit required*.²

Birds—*restricted*.¹

Bonsai trees—See "*Plants*," p. 8.

Candies—*admitted*.

Cheeses—fully cured: *admitted*; cottage cheese types: *generally prohibited*.

Chestnuts—*treatment required*.

Christmas greens and foliage—fresh or dried: *admitted*; pine branches: *generally prohibited*.

Citrus peel—fresh or dried: *prohibited from most countries*.

Coconuts—without husks: *admitted*; with husks: *admitted except into Hawaii and Florida*.

Coffee beans—roasted: *admitted*; unroasted and dried: *admitted except into Hawaii and Puerto Rico*.

Coffeeberries—*prohibited*.

Cones of trees—*admitted*.

- Corn**—and related plants, such as broomcorn, sorghum, and Job's tears: *permit required*.²
- Corn husks**—*admitted*.
- Cotton, medicinal**—*admitted*.
- Cotton plants**—all parts: *permit required*.²
- Dairy products**—fresh: *prohibited from most countries*.
- Disease organisms and vectors**.³
- Dried foods**—such as polished rice, beans, coffee, tea, and shelled nuts: *admitted*.
- Eggs**—bird and poultry eggs: *permit required*.¹
- Fish**—canned: *admitted*; other fish.¹
- Flower bulbs**—*admitted*; *Anemone* bulbs from Germany and *Gladiolus* bulbs from Africa: *prohibited*.
- Flowers**—fresh cut or dried: *admitted*; fresh camellia and gardenia: *prohibited into Florida, and treatment required into California*.
- Foliage**—fresh cut leaves and branches for decoration: *admitted*; pine, rice, sugarcane, citrus, and wheat foliage: *prohibited*.
- Fruits**—canned or processed: *admitted*; fresh fruit: *some kinds prohibited, others require permits*.²
- Game**—animals or birds—*restricted*.¹
- Hay, straw, or grass**—*prohibited from most countries*.
- Herbarium materials**—*generally admitted*; witchweed (*Striga* spp.) or materials regulated under Controlled Substances Act (illegal drugs): *prohibited*.
- Herbs**⁴—medicinal or food purposes: *admitted*.
- Hides and skins**—fully tanned: *admitted*.¹
- Insects**—dried and preserved: *admitted*; live insects in any stage of development.³
- Jams and jellies**—canned or processed: *admitted*.
- Leather products**(including suede)—*admitted*.¹
- Lichens**—*admitted*.

Meat—fresh meat: *prohibited from most countries*; canned, cured, or fully dried meat: *prohibited except with special certification from country of origin. (Contact a USDA office, see p. 13.)*

Mexican jumping beans—*admitted.*

Mushrooms—*admitted.*

Nuts—*admitted if outer husks removed. (Also see "Acorns" and "Chestnuts," p. 6.)*

Packing materials—made from plant and animal materials: *generally prohibited*; peat moss, sphagnum moss, wood shavings, sawdust, paper, and excelsior: *admitted.*

Pets—*restricted.*¹

Plants—all plants in soil: *prohibited*; dried plants, flowers, and leaves for herbarium or decorative purposes: *most kinds admitted*; citrus leaves, rice straw or hulls, sugarcane, and witchweed: *prohibited*; live plants, shrubs, trees, and fresh cuttings intended for growing: *prohibited or may require special postentry-growing authorization. (Contact a USDA office, see p. 13.)*

Rice straw and hulls—*prohibited except from Mexico.*

Rocks and minerals—*admitted if clean.*

Sauces—canned or processed: *admitted.*

Scientific materials—serums, animal or plant disease organisms, vectors, and specimens of animals (or their parts).³

Seeds—of flowers, shrubs, trees, vegetables, and other plants: *generally admitted*; seeds of alfalfa, avocado, bamboo, barberry, corn, cotton, currant, gooseberry, lentils, mahonia, mango, rice, and wheat: *prohibited*; seeds of coconut: *prohibited into Hawaii and Florida.*

Shamrocks—without roots: *admitted.*

Shells—seashells: *admitted*; snail shells: *prohibited unless empty and thoroughly cleaned.*

Snails—live snails, including escargots: *generally prohibited.*

Soil.³

Soup or soup mixes containing meat—*restricted* (see “Meat,” p. 8.)

Spices—dried: *admitted*.

Straw articles—straw animals, hats, baskets, and other souvenirs: *admitted*; items stuffed with straw: *prohibited*.

Sugarcane—*prohibited*; sugarcane seed: *permit required*.²

Terrarium materials—see “Plants,” p. 8.

Trophies—animal or birds: *restricted*.¹

Truffles—*admitted*.

Vegetables—canned or processed: *admitted*; fresh vegetables: *prohibited or may require permit*.²

Wild animals and birds—*restricted*.¹

Woolen goods—clothing, blankets, etc.: *admitted*.

¹ See “Animals and Birds,” p. 3.

² See “Plant Materials,” p. 4.

³ For information, write: “Quarantines,” U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

⁴ Refers to plants not regulated under the Dangerous Drug Act. For details on other herbs, write: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, Washington, D.C. 20537.

Products from Canada

Fruits—*generally admitted*; black currants: *prohibited*.

Meats and dressed poultry—*generally admitted*.

Plants—*must be certified by Canadian Dept. of Agriculture*.*

Vegetables—*generally admitted*; sweetpotatoes: *prohibited*; fresh corn on cob and potatoes: *prohibited from certain provinces*.

*NOTE: To take plants from one U.S. city to another by way of Canada, a U.S. certificate is required. Obtain certificate, in advance, from a USDA office (See p. 13).

Products from Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands

(These islands have agricultural pests that must be kept off the U.S. Mainland.)

Banana leaves—*admitted.*

Birds—*restricted. (see "Animals and Birds," p. 3.)*

Breadnut—*admitted.*

Cacao beans—*admitted.*

Cactus plants and cuttings—*prohibited from U.S. Virgin Islands.*

Coconuts—*admitted except into Florida and Hawaii.*

Coffeeberries—*prohibited.*

Coriander—*admitted.*

Flowers—*fresh cut or dried: admitted.*

Fruits—avocado, banana, breadfruit, papaya, pineapple, plantain, and quenepa; *admitted*; citrus fruit: *admitted if first port of arrival is Baltimore, Md., or any port north thereof*; other fruit: *prohibited.*

Garlic—*admitted.*

Ginger roots—*admitted.*

Gourds—*admitted.*

Herbs—*admitted.*

Insects—*dried and preserved: admitted*; live insects: *prohibited.*

Medicinal plants—*dried: admitted.*

Plants—*without soil: admitted*; plant cuttings: *admitted*; plants in soil: *prohibited*; cactus plants and cuttings: *prohibited from U.S. Virgin Islands.*

Seed cotton—*prohibited.*

Shells—*see "Shells," p. 8.*

Seeds—*dried: admitted.*

Snails—*prohibited.*

Soil—*prohibited.*

Sugarcane—*prohibited.*

Tamarind bean pods—*admitted.*

Vegetables—beans (fresh shelled), calabaza, chayote, eggplant, leek, onion, peas, pumpkin, most root crops, squash: *admitted*; sweetpotatoes and other vegetables: *prohibited.*

Products from Hawaii

(Hawaii has agricultural pests that must be kept off the U.S. Mainland.)

Berries (including coffeeberries)—*prohibited.*

Coconuts—unsprouted: *admitted except into Florida.*

Cotton and cotton bolls—*prohibited.*

Flower leis, flowers, foliage—fresh: *most kinds admitted*; fresh mauna loa, gardenia, jade vine and roses: *prohibited*; dried flowers and foliage: *admitted.*

Fruits—pineapple: *admitted*; avocado, banana, litchi and papaya: *treatment required before transporting*; other fruits: *prohibited.*

Insects—dried and preserved: *admitted*; live insects: *prohibited.*

Plants—plants in soil: *prohibited*; plants without soil and plant cuttings: *admitted if certified to be pest-free by Hawaii State Department of Agriculture. (For arrangements, call 548-2209 in Honolulu, 935-1049 in Hilo, 245-6192 in Kauai, and 877-7801 in Maui.)*
Cactus, rose, citrus plants: *prohibited.*

Sand (beach)—*admitted.*

Seed leis and seed jewelry—*admitted.*

Seeds—dried: *generally admitted.*

Shells—*see "Shells," p. 8.*

Snails—*prohibited.*

Soil—*prohibited.*

Sugarcane—*prohibited.*

Wood roses—*admitted.*

Products from Mexico*

Acorns—*admitted.*

Birds—*restricted. (See "Animals and Birds," p. 3.)*

Coconut—*admitted except into Florida and Hawaii.*

Fruits—banana, blackberry, cactus fruit, ceriman, date, dewberry, grape, lemon, lime (sour), litchi, melon, papaya, pineapple and strawberry: *admitted*; avocado—without the seed: *admitted except into California, Florida, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

Meats—pork, pork products, and poultry: *prohibited*; other meats: *admitted.*

Mexican jumping beans—*admitted.*

Nuts—*admitted.*

Plants—*see "Plants," p. 8.*

Tamarind bean pods—*admitted.*

Vegetables—*generally admitted*; potato, sweet-potato, and yam: *prohibited.*

*NOTE: Fruits and vegetables brought into Mexico may not be allowed back into the U.S. Check with border inspector before crossing into Mexico.

What About Your Car?

Cars that were used abroad and still have foreign soil clinging to them must be cleaned at the owner's expense before release at the port of arrival. This restriction does not apply to passenger cars from Canada or Mexico.

Commercial Shipments

This booklet pertains only to food, plant, and animal products brought into the United States with *passenger baggage*. For information about commercial shipments of foreign agricultural materials, contact one of the offices listed below, or write: "Quarantines," U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

For More Information

If you want information not covered in this booklet, write "Quarantines," U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782; or contact the nearest Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service office. Look in the telephone directory under "U.S. Department of Agriculture" in the following locations:

Alabama: *Mobile*

Alaska: *Anchorage*

Arizona:

Nogales

Phoenix

San Luis

Tucson (airport)

Bahamas: *Nassau*

Bermuda: *Hamilton*

California:

Alameda

Calexico

Fairfield (Travis AFB)

Los Angeles (airport)

Oakland

San Diego (airport)

San Francisco

San Ysidro

San Pedro

Colorado: *Denver*

Connecticut:

Wallingford

Delaware:

Dover

Wilmington

Florida:

Ft. Lauderdale

Jacksonville

Key West

Miami

Pensacola

Port Canaveral

Riviera Beach

Tampa

Georgia:

Atlanta

Savannah

Hawaii:

Hilo

Honolulu

Illinois: *Chicago*

Louisiana:

Baton Rouge

New Orleans

Maine:

Bangor

Portland

Maryland:

Baltimore

Massachusetts: *Boston*

Michigan: *Detroit*

Minnesota:

Duluth

St. Paul

Mississippi: *Gulfport*

Missouri:

Kansas City

St. Louis

New Jersey:

Hoboken

Moorestown

Wrightstown

New York:

Buffalo

Jamaica (JFK International Airport)

New York

Ogdensburg

Rouses Point

North Carolina:

Morehead City

Wilmington

Ohio:

Cleveland

Toledo

Oregon:

Astoria

Coos Bay

Portland

Pennsylvania:

Philadelphia

Puerto Rico: *San Juan*

Rhode Island: *Warwick*

South Carolina:

Charleston

Tennessee: *Memphis*

Texas:

Brownsville

Corpus Christi

Dallas

Del Rio

Eagle Pass

El Paso

Galveston

Hidalgo
Houston
Laredo
Port Arthur
Presidio
Progreso
Roma
San Antonio
U.S. Virgin Islands:
St. Thomas Island—
Charlotte Amalie
St. Croix Island—
Christiansted

Virginia:
Chantilly (Dulles
International Airport)
Newport News
Norfolk

Washington:
Blaine
Seattle
Tacoma

Washington, D.C.

Wisconsin: *Milwaukee*